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Please note & forward.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION
POST OFFICE BOX 3623
PORTLAND 8, OREGON

DEC 29 1964
LGL-2-9
1523 ✓

IN REPLY REFER TO

3400

December 22, 1964

Mr. Dwight L. Phipps, State Forester
Oregon State Department of Forestry
P. O. Box 2289
Salem, Oregon 97310

Dear Mr. Phipps:

A damaging outbreak of the Douglas-fir tussock moth was detected on portions of the Malheur and Ochoco National Forests during last summer's aerial survey of forest insect conditions in the State of Oregon. Follow-up ground surveys by Forest Service and State personnel showed that approximately 40,000 acres of forested lands were infested.

RLP
KRW

In mid-October a tussock moth egg survey was made at 30 selected plots on three of the largest infestation areas. At the King Mountain infestation (18,700 acres) new egg masses out-numbered old egg masses in the ratio of 7½:1. On the Antelope Mountain infestation (14,800 acres) the ratio of new to old egg masses was 14:1. At the Cold Hill infestation (6,500 acres) the ratio of new to old egg masses was 1:1. Our entomologists feel that large tussock moth populations will be present in all infestation areas next spring. Some tree killing has occurred in the heavy and very heavy damage areas already---more is imminent next year unless effective control measures are taken.

The Northwest Forest Pest Action Council was apprised of the tussock moth outbreak during its annual meeting in Portland on October 23, 1964. The Council supported a motion for control in 1965. A Forest Service proposal for aerial spraying with 3/4 pound DDT in one gallon of oil presently awaits approval by the Department of Agriculture and the Federal Committee on Pest Control. Once approved, we can move rapidly ahead on the details of organizing the control project.

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A small acreage of private forest lands, probably less than 2,000 acres, is within the proposed spray boundaries. Federal-State participation is desired so that affected private lands can be included in the control project on a cooperative basis. Cooperative Agreement No. 33397 between the State Forester and the Regional Forester provides a sound basis for cooperative control of the tussock moth epidemic on all affected lands. Since most of the infested lands are under Federal management, the Forest Service logically should assume the responsibility for supervision and administration of cooperative control. Details for Federal-State financial participation can be spelled out later in a financial plan. The plan would be prepared in accordance with the terms of the above mentioned Cooperative Agreement.

If you concur with our proposal for cooperative control, we would appreciate your designation of an infestation control district. It should encompass all of the known Douglas-fir tussock moth infestation areas on the Malheur and Ochoco National Forests and most of the rest of the true fir and Douglas-fir stands south of the crest of the Aldrich-Strawberry Mountain Divide on the Malheur National Forest.

Mr. Al Larsen and Mr. Ernie Pearson of your department recently visited our office. They were furnished information and maps on the location of the tussock moth infestations, proposed spray boundaries, and proposed boundaries for an infestation control district. We will appreciate your consideration of establishing an infestation control district for the Douglas-fir tussock moth as indicated on the map given to Mr. Larsen.

Sincerely yours,

WALTER H. LUND
Assistant Regional Forester

By T. B. Glazebrook

cc: PNW